

Message Text

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17

ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 ARA-06 AF-04 EUR-08 EA-06 NEA-06

CIAE-00 H-01 INR-05 L-01 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 /064 W

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R 061621Z MAR 75

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9375

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0695

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNEP,PE

SUBJECT: PEREZ DE CUELLAR'S INTEREST IN UNEP

1. PERUVIAN PERMREP PEREZ DE CUELLAR IS CLEARLY INTERESTED IN SUCCEEDING MAURICE STRONG AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UNEP. HIS INTEREST HAS BEEN MADE MANIFEST IN SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS WITH AMBASSADORS SCALI AND BENNETT. HE IS, HOWEVER, PLAYING MATTER CAUTIOUSLY BOTH WITH RESPECT TO UN SECRETARIAT AND HIS OWN GOVERNMENT. IN LENGTHY CONVERSATION WITH BENETT MARCH 4, PEREZ REITERATED EARLIER OPINION THAT SYG WALDHEIM HAD MOVED OVER-PRECIPITATELY ON UNEP CHANGES AND HAD CAUSED HIM EMBARRASSMENT LOCALLY AND POSSIBLE DIFFICULTIES WITH HIS OWN GOVERNMENT. HE POINTS OUT THAT EVEN NOW NO VACANCY EXISTS IN UNEP, AND IT IS NOT CLEAR TO HIM WHEN STRONG PROPOSES TO GIVE UP POST. THIS MAKES IT AWKWARD FOR HIM VIS-A-VIS LIMA IN PRESENTING HIS CANDIDACY. HE IS GRATEFUL FOR READINESS USG TO SUPPORT HIM, INFORMATION ON WHICH WAS TRANSMITTED TO HIM BY SCALI AND BENNETT PURSUANT TO BUFFUM TELCON.

2. DURING CONVERSATION PEREZ VOLUNTEERED HE WOULD BE
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GLAD TO HAVE A U.S. / WEO DEPUTY AT UNEP IF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR-

SHIP MATERIALIZES. HE STRESSED THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM OF WORKING TOGETHER AND IN FACT HE WOULD WELCOME AND NEED THAT KIND OF ASSISTANCE.

3. COMMENT: MATTER OF PEREZ' WIFE'S HEALTH DID NOT COME INTO CONVERSATION, ALTHOUGH IT IS AN ISSUE WHICH HAS BEEN MENTIONED BY HIM IN THE PAST. PEREZ SEEMS CLEARLY INTERESTED IN UNEP POST, BUT HIS PRESENT DIFFIDENCE IS OBVIOUSLY AFFECTED BY HIS UNCERTAINTY OVER CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION IN LIMA AND WHERE THAT LEAVES HIM PERSONALLY.
SCHAUFLE

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NNN

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